Application No. 10/086,661
Response dated May 23, 2007
Reply to the Office Action of February 1, 2007 and
Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of May 16, 2007

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A customer self-checkout system for processing article purchases of articles ~~normally having a security tag attached thereto~~, the system comprising:

    a self-checkout station comprising:

    an input device configured to receive product code input designating an article for purchase;

    a deactivation device configured to produce a deactivation region effecting deactivation of a security tag attached to an article for purchase; and

    a prompting system configured to present a deactivation prompt to direct a user to position an article for purchase within the deactivation region to effect security tag deactivation, <u>wherein the prompting system is configured to present the deactivation prompt after the receipt of the product code by the input device</u>.

2. (currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the prompting system is configured to present <u>an initial</u> ~~a second~~ prompt directing a user to enter a product code using the input device.

3. (currently amended) The system of claim 2 further comprising:

    a target visibly disposed proximate the deactivation region at the checkout station; and wherein

    the ~~second~~ <u>deactivation</u> prompt instructs the user to move the article to touch the target to effect security tag deactivation.

4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) The system of claim <u>1</u> ~~4~~ wherein the system further comprises:

    a database system coupled to the self-checkout station and comprising stored data identifying articles having attached security tags and articles not having attached security tags;